Kelkar Committee recommendations

217. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee which have not been accepted by Government;

(b) what are the reasons for not accepting those recommendations;

(c) what are the details of the recommendations which have been accepted with modifications; and

(d) what are the modifications that have been brought about in those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) to (d) Government has by and large accepted and implemented all the major recommendations made by the Kelkar Committee in its main as well as supplementary report. The following were accepted with modification:

(i) Exemption to small scale sector units from price control in respect of category II formulations and;

(ii) Exclusion of bulk Vitamins except 'A' & 'C' from price control and inclusion of 26 drugs in price control.

Price of Ampicilin Trihydrate

218. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) when the price of Ampicillin Trihydrate was announced under DPCO, 1987;

(b) what was its earlier price and what is the revised price;

(c) when the formulation prices based on Ampicillin were announced;

(d) what was the earlier price of each pack and strength of each formulation and what is the revised price;

(e) whether it is a fact that the revised prices of formulations were delayed for two years;

(f) what is the normal time period, to refix the prices of formulations after the announcement of bulk drug prices;

(g) whether his Ministry have taken any steps to investigate the delay; and

(h) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) to (d) The price of Ampicillin Trihydrate under the DPCO, 1987 was announced on 6-9-1988. This was however subsequently revised on 21-3-1989. The other requisite details, to the extent available, are given in the annexure. [*See* Appendix CLVIII, Annexure No. 8]

(e) to (h) After the announcement of price of Ampicillin Trihydrate on 6-9-1988, the prices of formulations based on this drug was announced on 4-1-1989. However, after the revision in the price of bulk drug Ampicillin Trihydrate on 21-3-1989, the prices of formulations based on the revised price could not be announced immediately due to oversight. The prices of formulations based on the revised price of Ampicillin Trihydrate have since betn announced.

Overcharging of Drug Prices

219. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of companies have not implemented the reduced prices of formulations from 1st January, 1991 as announced by his Ministry;

(b) if so, what are the details of such instances which came to the notice of his Ministry;

(c) what is the position of implementation of prices of finished medicines based on Flucinolone Acetomide;

(d) since when the prices are being overcharged; and

(e) whether his Ministry have taken any steps to calculate the amount overcharged by the formulators and what is the position of recovery from the companies?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) to (e) The manufacturer of Flucort range of formulations, which are based on Flucinolone Acetomide, has confirmed that they have implemented the reduced prices fixed by the Government under DPCO, 1987. The concerned State Drugs authority has been requested to confirm the position. However, if any instance of overcharging comes to the notice of the Government action as per due process of law would be taken against the company.

World Oil prices in the wake of Gulf War

220. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) by what percentage the world oil prices came down in the wake of Gulf war;

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to benefit from the crash of oil prices by buying it from the spot market and by striking a bargain with the OPEC and non-OPEC countries; and

(c) how much oil was purchased from the spot market by our country to avail of this benefit?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) The Mean Dubai crude oil price as per Platts on 6-1-1991 was $ 25.30 per barrel. This price came down to US $ 14.89 per barrel on 13-2-1991. On the basis of a comparison between the weighted average of price for the period from 17-1-1991 to 13-2-1991 with the price prevailing on 16-1-1991, there is a fall of about 38 per cent in oil price.

(b) During the period 15th January, 1991 to 13th February, 1991, we have lifted about 2.151 million tonnes of crude oil 4.444 million tonnes of SKO and 0.566 million tonnes of HSD to utilise the maximum port capacity containable inventory. Since we had already finalised our term contracts for supply upto 31st March, 1991 and the prices under term contracts are market related, the benefit of fall in price automatically accrues to us.

(c) The quantity of crude oil, SKO, and HSD imported on spot basis during 15-1-1991 to 13-2-1991 is 1.036 MMT, 0.380 MMT and 0.452 MMT respectively.

Closing down of oil wells in Bombay High and Gandhar field

221. SHRI G. G. SWELL:
DR. JINENDRA KUMAR:
SHRI BAL RAM SINGH YADAVA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state: